

Hitohira

2



IDUMI KIRIHARA



Hitohira 2

IDUMI KIRIHARA

Contents

<i>Theater (Boot) Camp</i> ✿ Chapter 9	8
<i>Like Sand in the Sea</i> ✿ Chapter 10	27
<i>You Can Do It!</i> ✿ Chapter 11	51
<i>Rehearsal Time!</i> ✿ Chapter 12	75
<i>A Crucial Experience</i> ✿ Chapter 13	99
<i>Two People In Storage</i> ✿ Chapter 14	123
<i>You Are Not Alone</i> Chapter 15	147
<i>Extra!</i>	171



WHOOSH

it's so pretty!

AND SUMMER
MEANS THE
BEACH!

SUMMER'S
HERE!

Ahh!

THREE DAYS
AND TWO
NIGHTS.

Woo hoo!
Let's go
swimmin'!

TOSS

WHOOSH

ALL OF US IN
THE THEATER
GROUP ARE
HERE FOR
OUR FABULOUS
CAMP!

Theater (Boat) Camp Chapter 9



ALAS, WE'RE
DRAGGED
BACK TO
REALITY....

A-E-I-
O-U!

Eleven
benevolent
elephants!

OK!
From
the
top!

SERIOUS

10!

WHOOOSH!!

This is
going to be
tough....

The festival
is coming up
soon, and we
don't have a
moment to
waste.

Got it?
Moving
on!

What
are you
saying?

Um...
None... isn't
practicing
right after
we got here
a bit...

Well...

To
tillap
your
bustbuds
....

...We've
got these
tasty
bustbuds!







Yeah...
these
are real
tears.

No
onions
around
here...



What do
you all
think?

Before
vacation
begin.
I think I
gave the
script to all
of you.

I WAS EVEN
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO THIS A
LITTLE...



THINKING
BACK,
THE CAMP
HANDOUT
SAID...

...EACH OF
US ONLY
NEEDED TO
BRING FOOD,
HIGHLIGHTERS,
AND PERSONAL
ITEMS.

Thinking Camp

Dates August 4 - August 15
Meet at ZAKU at the train exit
Please bring...



It's
good,
isn't it?

Yeah.

I think it's
interesting.

IT'S A STORY
ABOUT A HIGH
SCHOOL GIRL...

WWE
Hitchhike

THE TITLE IS
"HITCHHIRE."

LOVE'S
LOVE

Nono's
a really
good
writer...

SHE WAKES
UP TO THREE
MYSTERIOUS
SPIRITS
BEFORE HER.



HER ENTIRE
LIFE HAS BEEN
ROUGH, AND IN
DESPERATION SHE
TRIES, BUT FAILS,
TO END IT.

THE
SPIRITS
FADE
AWAY.

WHEN SHE
REALIZES,
"I'M
HAPPY..."

THE THREE
HELP HER
ATTAIN THE
LOVE SHE'D
GIVEN UP ON.

THE SPIRITS
SCOLD
HER...

...THEN
GIVE HER
HOPE.







In fact...

I created a role for each of us here.

Set...



I wrote the lead role specifically for you.



Now wait just a second!

Hmm... Seems there aren't many lines for Nono's character...



The casting was set even before I started it.

I'll be the Third Sprite.



Kai will play the boy whom the girl has a crush on.

That's it.

Takekshi and Raaki... will be the First and Second Sprites.

あやや
CONFUSED

泣- WHINE















We go to bed at 11:30! You know the schedule!

And why do you think that is? Look at the time.

Can't you see everyone's tired?



So hard...

See

I worked hard to create the lead especially for you.

Don't tell me you're embarrassed!



Why...

You're doing fine. Just believe in yourself!

You have a good voice, Mug!

...AM I EVER HERE?

PAT



Oh, and Mug! you aren't projecting enough!

How many times do I have to tell you?

ONLY TELL?

I'm sorry...



That's
why we're
practicing!
So you
will have
confidence.



No matter
how much I
practice...
I won't have
the confidence
to project
my voice on
stage...

A good
voice...

...makes no
difference
if no one
can hear it.



Try
harder
then!



Everyone
Grip!

But, I
already
am.

It might be
tough...
...but
give it
your all.

TAKING
COVER



You're so
good at
everything

...except
understanding
my feelings.

Grip!
Grip!





...so you
have all the
confidence
you need.

Compared
to you,
I'm just...

SILENCE

SLAM



I've had enough.

Quit acting. I don't care anymore.

Thinking like that is why you don't want to do this and why you'll never be able to do anything.



Go home if you want.

Keep on being little Miss Mugi "I-can't-do-anything" Asell

You're right.









Where'd she go?

Too dark to see...



Mugi!



WHOOOSH



WHOOOSH

MUGI!

MUGI!

MUGI!

Mugi...



Mugi!



WHOOOSH

MUGI!



MUGI!

WHOOOSH



Like Sand in the Sea Chapter 10









GRIN

Bring
it on.



I never
strike first,
but I always
strike last.

YOU'RE
GOING
DOWN



Hey,
you
two!

Listen to
the voice
of reason!
That's me!



If I go
back
there,
what am
I gonna
do?

That's
not where
I really
belong...



It's dark,
so watch
your step.



You gotta be careful...

SLOG
SLOG
SLOG

Mug?

Sorry

SHUFFLE

I WANTED TO TRY MY BEST.



I DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILL...

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.



I ALWAYS RUN AWAY.

YOU OK?

I HATE THIS.



I can't go back.

I CAN'T CHANGE WHAT I AM.

I'm not...

I'm not going back.

BUT IT'S NOT THAT EASY.



...I'll just stay here, too.

Well, if you don't wanna go back...

How can I...
... EVER FACE HER AGAIN?



Keep on being little Miss Mugi "I-can't-do-anything" Asai!

I COULDN'T TALK BACK TO HER.



Besides, if I go back without you, the only thing that awaits me is a death sentence from my sis.

There's no way I'm going to leave you out here all alone.

No, please.
It's not your problem, Kai.



Um...



Don't worry. Let's go back together after you feel better.

The group's only fun for me because you're in it too. Because we're both members, it is my problem.

Don't underestimate my power!





I'm
sorry for
making
everyone
worry.



Welcome
back!



Young
love!

Well,
well...



Is my
sis back
yet?



GOOD CAN
COME OUT
OF BAD,
HUH?



No, no...
I'm sorry
that I didn't
stick up for
you more.

Don't worry
about it
at all.







THE NEXT MORNING









How long do you plan on being mad at me?

...I'm gonna make you.



That was a waste.

If you don't settle down...



...I liked your ideas! That's why I'm here!

Do you even remember why you started this club?!

Even though you're twisted and hard to deal with...

SLAM

If you can't see that, then you should be the one going home!





I'm going
back to
the room.
We're meeting
at 10, so...

...be
on
time.



THE REASON
I STARTED
THIS GROUP
WAS TO...



What
you need
to focus
on is...

...whether
you're going
to quit or
keep on
trying.



What
is it?

Takashi,
I have
something
to ask
you...



FOR THAT...

... VERY
SIMPLE
REASON.

...ENJOY
TIME WITH MY
FRIENDS.
TIME THAT
WE WOULD
REMEMBER
FOREVER.



A VERY
IMPORTANT
REASON.

WHOOSH



So
frustrating
...

DOOM

We're the
ones who
have to
clean up
this mess,
aren't we?



WHOOSH

WHOOSH



WHOOSH

WHOOSH











YES,
THAT
WAS
ME...



You Can Do It! Chapter 11





All right!
Thanks!



Can we
see it?
Pretty
please?

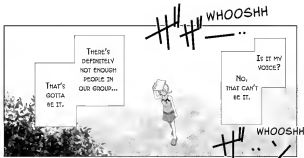
THAT WAS THE OLD ME.
I'M NOT THE GIRL I WAS...



let's
hurry
up and
copy it!

whoa,
this is
really
incredible!







SHOULD
I QUIT?



...I could
give it
a shot.

I thought
if I just
had a small
role...



I CAN
STILL
QUIT..

WHOOOSH



IT'LL BE
PAINFUL
IF I DO.



Me,
too.



...
BECAUSE
I WAS
FORCED
TO.



I JOINED
THE
GROUP...



IN THE
FIRST
PLACE...



That's
it.

That's
what
she
means!

That
time...



You
know
...

...we're
very
similar.

I used
to think
I wasn't
cut out
for this,
also.



TA-DUM!



That's
right...



...won't
regret joining
theater.
I have a
feeling you'll
look back one
day and be
glad that you
signed on.

You...



You know,
when you're
always
studying,
you're always
alone.



You're so
good at
everything

...except
understanding
my feelings.

I...

... HAVE
SEEN SO
SELFISH.











...you can do it.

If you believe you can change...







Like what?













I believe
in you.

Don't
give up.

What
was
that?

OK...

SLIDE
3

SLIDE
3 3

And...

...thank
you.
Mugi.

GIGGLE





That's
what
I was
told.



Huh?
Nono
passed
out?

Probably.

Probably?

Hmm...
Just one
looks a bit
lonely.

Takashi,
let's set
these up
in a row.



Well...
That's...
Hmm...

Summer's
all about
adventures
like this.



I was
just thinking
that our
sandcastle
is becoming
stronger
already.

What's
so funny,
Rash?



Umm...

?

?

Hey, you two!
It'd be a shame
if all we did this
summer was
rehearse and
not have fun.
You know, like
swimming at
the pool or
whatever...





Rehearsal Time! Chapter 12



Ahhh...



Oh,
Takashi...!

しっ
SIZZLE
しっ
SIZZLE



I've got
a bet
riding on
this one.



Sixteen
times
already.

Sigh.

It's
so hot!

You've
been
counting,
Sachie?

You
must
have lots
of free
time.













So,
can I go
ahead and
take some
pictures?



The look in
her eyes is
completely
different.





Something...

...has
breathed
new life
into her.

Even my
lens has
captured it.



For bringing
her out of
her shell.

I have
to thank
you, Kai.



Um...
You
just said
something
weird.

Why are
you so
red?

BLUSH

Was what
I said
really that
word?



I'm
not the
person you
should
thank...

BLUSH

Anyway,
not
me...

I didn't
do
anything,
really.









Mugi!
Good luck!

All right,
your part
again from
the top!

OK,
Mugi?

Y-

Yes!

*You
don't
have
to do
that...*

So...





What?



Hono?



*That again?
You're always
talking about
serious stuff?*

You
know...
what I
want to
say, huh?

I know.
You like
me.

*That's why
you end up
thinking that
life isn't fun,
you know!*



No.
It's not
that...

Oh,
really?

*Do the best
you can
with what
you've got
right?*



It's also
important
to think of
the future.

And...

...I want
to live in
that now.

Takashi,
don't you
understand?

Now...
this
moment...
only exists
right now,
right at this
moment.





THIS IS MY
ANSWER.

BECAUSE...

I WON'T
QUIT.







I FEEL
SOMETHING
PULLING ON
MY HEART.

!!
PRESSURE



WHAT
IS IT?

WHAT
COULD
IT BE?



...
SOMETHING'S
DIFFERENT.



DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN TO
HER OVER
THE SUMMER?

I KNEW
SHE HAD
A GOOD
VOICE.
BUT...





...GIVE
BOW...



President
Mire!!
I'm so
sorry!!

Chitose,
you really
need to...

は
あ

BOW



I FELT
LIKE I WAS
LOSING
MY...

I'll
rehearse
as if my life
depended
on it!

I humbly request
continuance of
your enlightened
guidance!



I'm
begging
you for
mercy!

I ONLY
HAVE A
SMALL
PART...

...BUT I
GOTTA
GIVE IT
MY ALL!



What
should
I do?!

PANIC

PANIC

Uh...

Um...

What do I
do?

Don't be
so nervous,
Mire!





#アアアア...
FSHHHH...



A Crucial Experience Chapter 13





Once the fall semester starts, there will be more and more posters.



Until the festival, we'll have to spend lots of time promoting our play.

We're counting on you.



Mugi, do you plan on standing there and covering that until the festival?



ナ
レ
ハ
34 —!!

B







I've been
keeping
it on
principle.

but you
guys would
be in
trouble
without it.
right?

is this...
our
funding?



wait
until the
timing is
right.

If I gave
it back
directly to
Nono, she
probably
wouldn't
take it.

Well...
Yes,
but...

I don't
know when,
or how,
to tell
Nono.



If you need
black fabric,
I think we
have some.

Umm
...

Should I
say that I
was secretly
working
part-time or
something?









What do you mean the curtain's missing?



I looked everywhere.

We probably forgot to put it away the last time we used it.

It's a big one, though

大事なものだ
忘れちゃった

Did you check the whole storage room?



Inventory
- Bottles, quantity 4
- Katana



There are other things—

Still, if it's gone, it's gone.

Minel, do you have a second?



I could have sworn we did.

I HAVE
TO
SAY...

Roger
that!

We still have
some funding
left over,
so make a
purchase order
and show it to
me later.

It
can't
be
helped.

Thank
you,
President
Mirel!

SOMETHING
DOESN'T
ADD UP.

Thanks
for your
hard
work.

Well,
that's
all for
today.

CHATTER
あ

Bye
bye!

I'd like to
change the
prologue's
music to
this piece.

Mirel.

That's
true...

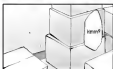
Hey!
Let's eat
snow
cones!

あ
CHATTER





TEN MINUTES
LATER...





Could
it be...

...THE REASON
OUR PROPS ARE
DISAPPEARING
IS...

ア...
GRAB



ざわっ...
RUSTLE

Wait a
minute.
If the
door was
unlocked...

And
assuming
Sadashi's
not dumb
enough to
leave it
open...



Why the
heck
would
you
call *my*
name?!

Nono!
Come
out!

JUMP









This sucks.

Hey, that's my line.

Ow, my butt!



Well, I did what I came to do... I'm outta here.

Good, please go.



CLANK





Geez.
This is
serious!

Did you
tell anyone
you were
coming
here?



Experience
builds
character.

I never
thought I'd
experience
being a
prisoner in
my own
school.



A Crucial
Experience.
Part 2.

You know...
...I
understand
now how
people can
develop
murderous
proclivities.



We can only
hope your
freshman
comes to
our rescue.

I didn't
tell
anyone
so...

One
freshman.

Hm
...









Nano?



Nano...

What's
wrong?

Chapter 13 ⇨ End

木野信二
一年 脚本

Sound Work
© FRODO BAGGINS
PLAYBOY

山口実
二年

照明チーフ

Music
JAVASCRIPT
SOUNDWORK
LIONEL
TECHNICAL

和久井貞浩
二年 舞台監督

SADASHI WAKU
- SOPHOMORE
STAGE DIRECTOR

二年 川崎

音楽チーフ

HIROKI KANAGAKI
- FRESHMAN
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Two People In Storage Chapter 14





I think I lost my voice.

WHY CAN'T SHE...



...SHOW EMOTION,
EVEN WHEN SHE TELLS ME THIS?



All wrapped up ♪.h.





Who
are
you?

Do you
have
business
here?

THUD

Uh... HE...
I'm Mugi
Asai...

From the
Theatre
Research
Group!

FRAZZLED

かああああ







Don't
say such
a stupid
thing!

Please stop crying.
After all, it's not
your place to cry
over this.



I was the
one who
convinced
you to join
theater!

It's my
fault!



110#
RUSTLE

THE WAY
WE MET,
WAS SO
SIMPLE....

And now
your voice is
gone.

I
shouldn't
have
forced
you!



Not my
place...

...to
cry over
this?!

1111#
FLUTTER ..



WE MET
THE SAME
WAY MOST
PEOPLE DO.

THE SEAT
NEXT TO MINE,
IN THE SAME
CLASS...

HI, I'm
Mina.
What's your
name?



Nice to
meet
you,
Nono!

N-
Nono.

...



If only
our seats
hadn't
been next
to each
other...



I'm not
that good at
conversing
with people.

I don't see
you talking
with other
people that
often.

Just
won-
dering
that's all.

Mono,
are you
having a
hard time
making
friends?



You can
become a
different
"you" and
have fun,
too.

Then, why
don't you
try doing
theater
with me?



Why
do you
ask?



But
still...

I am glad
that inviting
you did that
much for
you.

I was
happy
seeing you
laugh and
enjoy life
more.

I shouldn't
have
meddled in
your life
like that.



And why are you all wet?

Huh?

What's this?!

As you can see, I'm quitting.



I'm not coming back.

Hey Nono, you know you can always come back any time.

So please rejoin the group after you get better.



Uh, OK.

I understand... Here, let me get you a towel.



And even if you disagree...

I can't just wait for the day I'll be better.

My time in high school is already half over.



I wondered
why you
acted so
selfishly.

That made
me really
upset back
then.

ZOOM



ZOOM

Your health
was at stake,
and I couldn't
understand why
you had to be
so belligerent.

ZOOM



I wonder if
Mina went
home
already.

I'm
going
to...

...form
my
own
group.







SERIOUSLY

...

I CAN GO
ON AND ON.

Who-?!

You...
are so...

THERE'S
NOTHING
GOOD
ABOUT
HER.

...THERE'S
ONE GOOD
THING
ABOUT HER.

Then,
you aren't
my friend...

**My friend:
Mirei Sakaki**

10
+
=
SLUMP

CERTAINLY...

if you
can't under-
stand...

...how
much I care
about you.

Stupid



MIREI
WAS ONLY
THINKING
OF NONO'S
HEALTH WHEN
SHE ASKED
HER TO QUIT.



I GUESSLY
LEAVES"
DROPPED.

AND NONO
PROBABLY WANTED
TO CONTINUE
THEATER BECAUSE
IT WAS HER
CONNECTION
WITH MIREI.



It would
be bad if I
interrupted
now.

EVEN THOUGH
THEY'RE
LOOKING IN
EACH OTHER'S
DIRECTION...

...THEY
STILL CAN'T
SEE EYE
TO EYE.









ALL THEY
DO IS
BICKER.

SHOOLE

THAT KIND OF
FRIENDSHIP IS
WONDERFUL,
TOO.

...AND
THINGS
RETURNED
TO NORMAL.

Hey,
you could
be a little
happier,
after all your
hysterics
yesterday.



What's
so funny,
Mug?

Hm?



Shut
up!



Oh,
I was just
thinking...

...about
how glad I
am that I
joined this
group.



...BUT I
WANNA PUT
ON A GREAT
SHOW, ONE
WE'LL NEVER
FORGET.

I'M STILL
PRETTY
ANXIOUS...



Oh, yeah...
about the
funding!

For
Nono...

AND FOR
MYSELF
...



IT'S GONNA
BE AN
INTERESTING
FESTIVAL!

GRRR

GRRR

GRRR

GRRR

It's
hers!



Chapter 14 ♦ End



Love Net - Love Net - Love Net





OOH...

And the ones who'll
decide their
fates are...
...you!

AHHH...

So
dramatic!



If you like
what you
see, put
this ball in
their box,
and
that's it!

It's that
simple!

You can view
either or
both of the
productions!



A competition
of survival
between the
two theater
groups!

Here begins
a battle of
both subtle
eloquence
and burning
passion!



Ah!

The audience is already starting to gather.

For more information, please refer to their flyers and posters!

Their plays will be in the auditorium! The first group to perform will be the official Theater Group!



B-But... is this really going to attract customers?

A table-cloth...

Put it back!

WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?
TOE KILLER
3

You Mug! take a look over—

Hey! What's that?!



All the girls have to do that! No exceptions!

We've already decided!

Oh!

RIP



D-Do I really have to do...

...that?



It must be all in my mind...

Ah... I guess...

We wear skirts to school every day, so what's the difference?

Oh! Looking good, you sexy thing!

Isn't this skirt a little short?

ま
—
SIGH...

It was her idea. 彼女の案 ↓



Maid Cafes are in fashion lately! We gotta follow the trends, you know!

We're young and fresh right now! We look super hot!

LET'S DRIVE 'EM BONKERS!

く



Oh, my...



Oh, Kail! Good timing! Take a look at Mug!

Hey! The natives are getting restless, so get your barely-ripe butts out here!

READY

Go!





AFTER
TODAY...
...
EVERYTHING
WILL BE FINE.

Please
come in
and relax
with us.

Maid
Cafe,
open for
business!

Let's
go to
that
candy
shop!



SHOCK

Oh,
a maid!
How
cute!
♥

Kyo,
you're
such a
perv!



Get your
hands off
that bimbo
right this
instant!
I'm going
to smack
you if you
don't!

You
dirty
dog!

Uh...

Uh...

Uh...

There's nothing
perverted about
liking maids who
fulfil the wishes
of men!

Right,
baby?

1-1
MAID CAFE
OPEN FOR
BUSINESS

What
do you
think
you're
doing?!



Maids are
what men's
dreams are
made of.
wouldn't
you agree?

Oh,
nice timing
dude!
You tell
them too!



Not
the
face!



what's
their
deal?

Really?
You're so
sweet!

You're
so cute
when
you're
angry!

I just
wanted
to make
you a
little
jealous!

I'd
rather
not
know

LOVEY-DOVEY



Baby,
honey!
Wait!

Kyo, you
perverted
horny toad!
I hate you!

STEAM

STEAM











NOT A
SOUND
IN THE
AUDIENCE



SUCH

TENSION

SQUEEZE



Well
L...

...BE
ABLE TO
PERFORM
ON THAT
SAME
STAGE?



Ayaaaaa!

JOLT

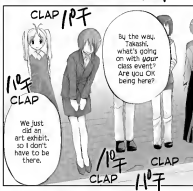
WHAT AN
IMPACT...

THOSE
WORDS
...



Well
I...

...BE ABLE
TO STAND
WHERE
MERU IS
NOW?









Remember,
you're not
alone.

You're
gonna be
all right.



He's
actually
acting
mature.

He's
playing
...
...it
well.

THEY
ARE...

...MY
STRENGTH.

He stole
your part,
 huh?

On that
stage...

...all the
people who've
practiced
with you,
will be there
with you still.





...will become
terrible
memories that
you won't
ever want to
recall again.

...but
the fun
moments
also...



I DID THINGS
THAT I NEVER
IMAGINED I
WOULD, OR
COULD, DO.

SO MUCH HAS
HAPPENED
OVER THESE
LAST SIX
MONTHS.



UNTIL I
JOINED
THEATER...

When you
honestly know
that you did
your very
best...



AND THEN
I REALIZED
SOMETHING.

Mugi...



...you'll
come to
think fondly
even of the
tough times.

...I HAD
NEVER REALLY
TRIED TO DO
ANYTHING WITH
ALL MY HEART
BEFORE.





うひゃうひゃうひゃ
AHAHA HA HA!





...SLIP AWAY
FROM ME.

BUT I CANNOT
LET THIS
MOMENT...

HITOHIRA IN FOUR MOVEMENTS

MY FRIEND'S FAVORITE



ON EXPRESSING FEELINGS

LET'S TALK ABOUT PERSONALITY





KEEPING IT REAL



*A Star
Is Born?*

Hitohira
3

